

Communities of Opportunity Initiative

Community Progress Report
April 1, 2010 thru June 30, 2010

Due July 15, 2010

Name of Community: Elbert
Date: 7/15/10

Local Champion: Anna Grant Jones, Development Authority of
Elbert Co., Elberton & Bowma

Co-Op Strategies	List Measures of Success, (Or Barriers If Applicable)	Action Items Completed for Each Strategy	Cost Estimate	Provide a Brief Description of Issues and Action Items to be Addressed Next Quarter
Improve availability of Hospital services		Hospital referendum as a result of community meeting held last Fall. It is on the ballot for 7/20/10. It is a two year commitment for one mill (\$500,000) to go toward operations.	Marketing paid for by private, community group of citizens.	Next EMH will try to get on November's SPLOST list.
workforce	Community goal of certificates – 332. Current number 1181. 179% increase. Improvement by 6% in HS grad rate.	Moving into post-certification plan. Paid for incentives for Juniors for passing graduation test. Looking at paying for web-based standardized tests access through Elbert Co. Library.	\$5000	Will help offset costs to Athens Technical College for testing and proctor cost.
Enriched Educational Experience	Raised graduation rate. Currently 68.2% and met AYP.	Paid for incentives for Juniors for passing graduation test. Looking at paying for web-based standardized tests access through Elbert Co. Library.	\$5000	Testing of seniors again in the next school year and look for other ways to assist raising of grad rate.
Marketing		Web site for Dev. Auth. ARC grant funds helped. Web site completed. www.gowithelbert.com	\$4,000.00	The Ex. Dir. will continue to keep the web site updated and promote it to State partners.
Transportation- Complete 4-laning of Highway 72	72 back on the list	Regional group continues to meet with DOT. Also Elbert Co. Commissioners met with DOT and informed 72 back on the list.		The group will continue to lobby for the expansion to happen.
Tourism/Lake Russell	Completion of cottages	Three new cabins for Richard B. Russell. Persistence in communicating with DNR.	Utilizing prison labor.	The community will continue to lobby for more cottages and/or a lodge and campsites and

				promote the park.
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Communities of Opportunity Initiative

Community Progress Report

January 1, 2010 – March 31, 2010

Due: Wednesday, March 31, 2010

Name of Community: Elbert

Local Champion: Anna Grant Jones

Date: 3/25/10

Co-Op Strategies	List Measures of Success, (Or Barriers If Applicable)	Action Items Completed for Each Strategy	Cost Estimate	Provide a Brief Description of Issues and Action Items to be Addressed Next Quarter
Transportation Extend runway at airport	Agreement to application by OneGeorgia	Submitted application to AirGeorgia/OneGeorgia to extend runway another 1,000 feet and repaving existing runway – target infrastructure expansion to encourage commercial and industrial growth.	\$2.7 million	Did not receive funding but re-submitting application after working with OneGeorgia.
Enriched education experience	Volunteers to speak in every class in all three grades every month	Adopt-a-Class for all Middle School classes. Worked three years in this program. Started with six grade and moved up each year.	Community Partnership of Elbert Co. Ex. Director's time.	This program continues with new volunteers in September.
Enriched educational experience		CHOICES program in 8 th grade. Monthly class headed by community volunteer. Interactive decision-making workshop assisting in making education, career and life choices. Ex. Time, money management and goal-setting.	\$650.00	This program will continue this new school year.
Insure Elbert Co. children are ready to learn upon entering school	Children receiving books.	Read at Home. The group continues to fundraise even in this difficult time. 15,144 books have been sent to Elbert County children birth to five.	\$36 per child per year. Currently we serve 400 a month, which is \$14,400 a year.	Continuing to fundraise and keep the program going.

Tourism at Richard B. Russell State Park	Fiber in place in Richard B. Russell State Park	Currently, the Development Authority and the City of Elberton are applying to ARC and OneGeorgia for funds for The City of Elberton to put high speed internet and tv service throughout the park. This is another step toward preparing the park for further development. The OneGA grant was received and the application to ARC will be sent in August.	\$200,000.00	The ARC app is due in August.
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